

Recorder declare at once for Vance,⁸⁰ & that you write the first Editorial.

No one is so blind as not to see that the preceptors, in whose hands was the Government when the war commenced, are determined to continue their power, in case God gives us success. They expect those who struggled long for the Union to do the hard fighting, but to be during the contest & afterwards "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for them.

All we want is fair play, and this we can secure at least in this State by electing Vance for Gov. & a proper Assembly. These can both be done, by the exercise of a little care.

I have always esteemed Mr. Johnson.⁸¹ But George Davis like, he became all of a sudden in advance of his associates a convert, & a zealous Camp follower of the precipitators. His mind became all at once Mesmerised in some dream or vision, and he deserted his brethren, without notice to them of what had been so kindly communicated to him.

His whole course in the Convention, shews that he is ready to lead a charge on his own political friends. I prefer blows from a known enemy, rather than from professed friends.

I have confidence that Vance's election can be carried. He has more ability, and is better qualified to discharge the duties of Gov'r than Johnson, or any that the Secessionists will offer us.

I should be pleased to hear from you.

From John W. Graham to Susan Washington Graham UNC

Camp of Instruction,

Camp Mangum,⁸²

June 16th., 1862.

One month has passed rapidly away since I left home. My company are making very satisfactory progress in the Drill and give me very little trouble except their frequent petitions for furloughs. I

⁸⁰ The first occasion when Vance was prominently mentioned for the governorship may have been on March 15, 1862, when the *Raleigh Register* published an account of a Rutherford County meeting which proposed his candidacy.

⁸¹ William Johnston.

⁸² Camp Mangum, a Civil War training camp, was located in Wake County about three miles west of Raleigh, Powell, *North Carolina Gazetteer*, 84.